

Sinclair Broadcast Group of Maryland, owner of the largest chain of television stations in the nation, plans to preempt regular programming two weeks before the Nov. 2 election to air a documentary that accuses Sen. John F. Kerry of betraying American prisoners during the Vietnam War. Sinclair decided to air the film after it was rejected for airing by the major broadcast networks.

Sinclair's top executives, including members of the controlling Smith family, have been strong financial supporters of Bush's campaign. The company made news in April when it ordered seven of its ABC-affiliated stations not to air a "Nightline" segment that featured a reading of the names of U.S. soldiers killed in Iraq. Sinclair's refusal to name the heroes that gave their lives in Iraq while drugging up dirt on Vietnam veterans clearly shows the political bias of this company.

For this reason I urge the FCC not to renew Sinclair's licenses in my state, Virginia.